

What is Claimed:

1 1. A process for investment in intellectual property, the process
2 comprising the steps of:

3 (a) providing an accounting for an intellectual property
4 investment;

5 (b) providing a valuation with respect to the intellectual property
6 investment;

7 (c) performing financial analysis related to the intellectual
8 property investment and making a recommendation based upon the financial
9 analysis; and

10 (d) managing the investment based upon the accounting,
11 valuation, and analysis for the investment.

1 2. The process of claim 1 wherein the recommendation is a
2 financial transaction recommendation selected from the group consisting of: buy,
3 hold, and sell.

1 3. The process of claim 1 wherein step (c) comprises
2 computing one or more financial ratios or indices and comparing financial
3 information relating to the intellectual property investments to one or more other
4 intellectual property investments.

1 4. The process of claim 1 comprising applying the process to
2 one or more stages of a life cycle of the intellectual property investment.

1 5. The process of claim 1 comprising incorporating the process
2 into a non-IP-based financial analysis, earnings-per-share estimation, and
3 recommendation process.

1 6. The process of claim 1 wherein the intellectual property
2 investment comprises an intellectual property asset; an intellectual property asset

3 and one or more related assets; or one or more controlling, owning, and/or
4 creative entities of one or more intellectual property assets.

1 7. The process of claim 1 wherein the accounting step
2 comprises identifying one or more intellectual property assets and verifying
3 ownership of each asset.

1 8. The process of claim 7 wherein the accounting step further
2 comprises classifying the one or more intellectual property assets and recording a
3 cost or book value for each asset.

1 9. The process of claim 8 wherein the accounting step further
2 comprises compiling and recording an inventory of a plurality of intellectual
3 property assets.

1 10. The process of claim 1 wherein the valuation step comprises
2 determining whether one or more intellectual property assets are valid.

1 11. The process of claim 10 wherein the valuation step further
2 comprises one or more of the following steps:

3 (c1) computing a basic liquidation or collateral value of the
4 intellectual property asset;

5 (c2) computing an estimated intellectual property asset fair
6 market value;

7 (c3) computing an intellectual property asset fair market value by
8 transactions in a financial market; and

9 (c4) computing an intellectual property distressed asset valuation.

1 12. The process of claim 11 wherein computing the estimated
2 intellectual property asset fair market value comprises identifying and taking into
3 account a plurality of valuation and risk factors.

1 13. The process of claim 1 wherein the investment comprises a
2 controlling, owning, and/or creative entity of one or more intellectual property
3 assets and the method further comprises developing a total asset value for each
4 intellectual property asset relating to the entity and summing the total asset
5 values for each asset relating to the entity to determine a total net intellectual
6 property asset value for the entity.

1 14. The process of claim 13 wherein the analysis step comprises
2 computing impact of the total net intellectual property asset value on earnings per
3 share/unit and share/unit price of a security related to the entity.

1 15. The process of claim 1 where the analysis step comprises
2 one or more analytical techniques from the group consisting of: computing one
3 or more intellectual property financial ratios or indices for the investment,
4 comparing or ranking the intellectual property investment to one or more other
5 investments, and analyzing risk factors relating to the investment.

1 16. The process of claim 15 where financial ratios comprise one
2 or more of the group consisting of: total intellectual property value divided by
3 net worth or book value, total assets, total revenues, total net income, or number
4 of shares or units; total intellectual property value per share or unit as a
5 percentage of earnings per share or unit, total market capitalization, or share or
6 unit book value or fair market value.

1 17. The process of claim 15 wherein the financial index
2 comprises a representative sample designed to track general market price
3 performance of intellectual property assets, or designed to track performances of
4 a particular intellectual property segment.

1 18. The process of claim 1 further comprising generating one or
2 more periodic investment performance reports reporting a rate of return and risk
3 related to one or more of the intellectual property investments.

1 19. The process of claim 18 further comprising confirming
2 accuracy of the investment performance reports through independent, third party
3 validation.

1 20. The process of claim 1 comprising a first entity using the
2 method to manage intellectual property investments controlled, owned, created
3 or a combination thereof by the first entity.

1 21. The process of claim 1 comprising a first entity using the
2 method to invest in intellectual property investments not controlled, owned, or
3 created by the first entity.

1 22. The process of claim 1 wherein the process comprises
2 changing an intangible value for intellectual property to a tangible value.

1 23. The process of claim 1 wherein the process comprises
2 changing a first tangible value for intellectual property to a second tangible
3 value.

1 24. The process of claim 1 wherein the process comprises
2 changing a first tangible value for intellectual property to a second tangible
3 value.

1 25. The process of claim 1 further comprising conducting one or
2 more financial transactions based upon the valuation, analysis, and
3 recommendation steps.

1 26. The process of claim 6 wherein the creative entity is an
2 individual.

1 27. The process of claim 26 further comprising tracking
2 performance of one or more creative individuals.

1 28. The process of claim 26 further comprising ranking one or
2 more entities by type of intellectual property controlled, owned, or created;
3 number of intellectual property assets controlled, owned, or created; or value of
4 intellectual property assets controlled, owned, or created.

1 29. The process of claim 1 further comprising:

2 determining for an entity or a security related to the entity, one or
3 more of: estimated security price, estimated change in security price, projected
4 earnings, or projected change in earnings, and

5 recommending buying, holding, or selling the security based upon
6 the estimate or projection.

1 30. The process of claim 1 further comprising interfacing with
2 one or more accounting entities for performing the accounting and valuation
3 steps.

1 31. The process of claim 1 further comprising creating an
2 accounting report for an entity showing a balance sheet and income statement
3 reflecting the valuation and earnings of the intellectual property assets
4 corresponding to the entity.

1 32. The process of claim 1 wherein the management step
2 comprises determining one or more investment objectives/strategies, conducting
3 one or more financial transactions concerning the investment, and
4 monitoring/tracking performance of the investment.

1 33. A program storage device readable by a machine, tangibly
2 embodying a program of instructions executable by the machine to perform
3 method steps for investing in intellectual property, the method steps comprising:

1 (a) providing an accounting for an intellectual property
2 investment;

3 (b) providing a valuation with respect to the intellectual property
4 investment;

5 (c) performing financial analysis related to the intellectual
6 property investment and making a recommendation based upon the financial
7 analysis; and

8 (d) managing the investment based upon the accounting,
9 valuation, and analysis for the investment.

1 34. A method for investment in intellectual property, the method
2 comprising the steps of:

3 (a) identifying one or more intellectual property investments;

4 (b) identifying relevant valuation and risk factors for each
5 intellectual property investment;

6 (c) calculating a total net intellectual property asset value for
7 each intellectual property investment; and

8 (d) managing, selecting or recommending one or more
9 intellectual property investments based upon the total net intellectual property
10 asset value and the risk factors.

1 35. The method of claim 34 comprising comparing a plurality of
2 intellectual property investments to one another based upon the corresponding
3 total net intellectual property asset value and the risk factors for each.

1 36. The method of claim 34 wherein the intellectual property
2 investment comprises an intellectual property asset; an intellectual property asset
3 and one or more related assets; or one or more controlling, owning, and/or
4 creative entities of one or more intellectual property assets.

1 37. A method for investment in intellectual property comprising
2 making a recommendation based upon financial analysis related to an intellectual
3 property investment.

1 38. The method of claim 37 further comprising, prior to making
2 the recommendation, performing the financial analysis based upon an accounting
3 and a valuation for the investment.

1 39. The method of claim 38 further comprising, prior to
2 performing the financial analysis, performing a valuation for the investment
3 based upon the accounting for the investment.

1 40. The method of claim 11 further comprising making an
2 investment decision based upon the distressed asset valuation.

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